

SECRET

26 December 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Director, Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Former President Truman's Article in THE WASHINGTON POST, 22 December

1. With reference to former President Harry Truman's article on the Agency which appeared in THE WASHINGTON POST on 22 December, I thought you might be interested to review the history and background of governmental authorization for covert operations as presently carried on by the Clandestine Services. Attached hereto is a copy of a report written for the Psychological Strategy Board under date of December 19, 1951 by Dr. Edward P. Lilly, entitled "The Development of American Psychological Operations". I think you will find the material between pages 41 and 50 of particular interest. The authorization evolved out of an NSC document which was issued in December 1947, the follow-up directives coming in 1948. Mr. Truman was re-elected for his full term in November 1948. It seems hard to believe that he himself wrote THE POST article containing as it does such clear inaccuracies.

(Signed) Richard Helms

Richard Helms
Deputy Director for Planscc: Chief, CA - no att.
Mr. Chretien - no att.Attachment: **SECRET**

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☐ UNCLASSIFIED

☐ INTERNAL

F. Truman, Harry S.

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☐ CONFIDENTIAL

☐ SECRET

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

x: Covert Operations
x: Helms, Richard

FROM:

Deputy Director for Plans

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

26 December 1963

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

Mr. Paul Chretien

26 DEC 1963

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